**THE BLUE TRAIN GUESTS’ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

1. **WHAT IS THE DISTANCE THE BLUE TRAIN TRAVELS BETWEEN PRETORIA & CAPE TOWN**
   * **1660 km (904 Miles)**

1. **HOW LONG IS THE BLUE TRAIN?**
   * **Long train – 399 Metres; Short train – 294 Metres**
2. **HOW LONG HAS THE TRAIN BEEN IN EXISTENCE?**
   * **The Blue Train was launched and has been in existence since 1946**

1. **HOW MANY CARRIAGES (COACHES) DOES THE TRAIN HAVE?**
   * **Long train – 19 carriages; Short train – 14 carriages**

1. **ARE THE WINDOWS BULLET-PROOF?**
   * **The windows are not bullet proof but are double-glazed.**
   * **If someone were to stone the window it would shatter on the first attempt and would need a high impact to go through the window**
2. **WHO WAS THE INTERIOR DESIGNER ON THE TRAIN?**
   * **The late American designer, David Barrett, who was the former president of the American Society of Interior Decorators.**

1. **Does The Blue Train fare include gratuity?**
   * **The fare does not include gratuities. Our guests are not obliged to give the staff gratuities. However should guests at their own discretion wish to do so, guests are encouraged not give gratuities to individuals, but to rather use the gratuity box located at the entrance of the Club (Smoking) Car.**
   * **Gratuities are then shared equally amongst all the staff (including the kitchen staff) at the end of each trip**

1. **HOW MANY VREW MEMBERS ON BOARD AT EVERY TRIP?**
   * **28 CREW + 2TECHNICIANS**

1. **WHAT CURRENCY IS USED IN THE BOUTIQUE SHOP?**
   * **South African Rands (R)**
2. **WHAT ROUTES DOES THE BLUE TRAIN DO?**
   * **Standard route is Pretoria – Cape Town and vice-versa. On charters, Pretoria – Durban, Pretoria – Kruger; Pretoria – Sun City; Pretoria – Bloemfontein and anywhere else where there are rail networks that are compatible to The Blue Train’s technology.**

1. **HOW MUCH WATER DOES THE BLUE TRAIN HOLD?**
   * **Each coach – 5,000 litres; Entire train – 85,000 litres**
2. **IS THE BLUE TRAIN PRIVATELY-OWNED?**
   * **No. The Blue Train is owned by Transnet, a State-owned company**

1. **WHICH FAMOUS PEOPLE HAVE TRAVELLED ON THE BLUE TRAIN?**

* **The Blue Train VIP Guest Record**

**Celebrities….Actors / Artists etc.**

**Imram Khan**

**Naomi Campbell**

**Quincy Jones**

**Mia Farrow**

**Sir Nigel Mansell & wife**

**Paul Simon**

**Jonty & Kate Rhodes**

**John Corr ( From the Irish band The Corrs )**

**Earl & Lady Spencer ( Lady Di’ s parents )**

**Leo Sayer**

**Pieter Dirk Uys**

**Neil Young ( From the band Crosby , Stills , Nash & Young )**

**Sir Peter Ustinov**

**Sir Elton John**

**Danny Glover**

**Karin Barnard**

**Sir Tim Rice**

**Kylie Minogue**

**Other……Politicians etc.**

**Former Presidents - Nelson Mandela and Thabo Mbeki**

**Arch-Bishop Desmond Tutu & wife**

**Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa**

1. **HOW MANY SA PROVINCES DOES THE BLUE TRAIN TRAVERSE FROM PRETORIA TO CAPE TOWN OR VICE-VERSA?**
   * **Four Provinces – Gauteng, North West, Northern Cape and Western Cape.**